

REMARKS

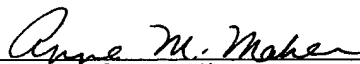
Claims 1-19 and 42-47 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1, 8, 10, 17, and 42 being independent. Non-elected Claims 20-41 and 48 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4-19, 42, 43, and 45-47 have been amended.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-19 and 42-47 in the outstanding Office Action. Applicants have cancelled Claims 20-41 and 48, as required by the Examiner, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Also, in the amendments above, Claim 14 has been amended to change its dependency. The other amendments presented above merely effect minor changes to improve the form of the claims. Applicants submit that the amendments raise no new issues for consideration, and have no effect on the scope or the allowability of the claims.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1-19 and 42-47 remain in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C., office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,



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